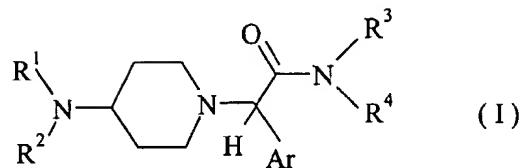


LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): A compound of formula (I):



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

R¹ denotes 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl,

R² denotes hydrogen, C₁-C₆-alkyl, ω-hydroxy-C₂-C₄-alkyl, 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl or C₃-C₆-cycloalkylmethyl,

Ar denotes unsubstituted phenyl or phenyl which is 1- to 5-substituted by halogen, hydroxy, C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy, C₁-C₄-fluoroalkyl, C₁-C₄-fluoroalkoxy or -OCH₂O-;

R³ denotes phenyl-C₁-C₄-alkyl, wherein the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are selected from halogen, hydroxy, C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₁-C₄-alkoxy, C₁-C₄-fluoroalkyl, and C₁-C₄-fluoroalkoxy;

and

R⁴ denotes hydrogen, C₁-C₄-alkyl, C₃-C₈-cycloalkyl, CH₂COOH, -CH₂C(O)NH₂, -OH or phenyl-C₁-C₄-alkyl.

2. (Original): A compound according to claim 1, wherein R⁴ is C₁-C₄-alkyl.

3. (Original): A compound according to claim 1, wherein Ar is unsubstituted phenyl or 2,3-methylenedioxyphenyl.

4. (Original): A compound according to claim 2, wherein Ar is unsubstituted phenyl or 2,3-methylenedioxyphenyl.

5. (Original): A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.

6. (Original): A compound according to claim 2, wherein R^3 denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.

7. (Original): A compound according to claim 3, wherein R^3 denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.

8. (Original): A compound according to claim 4, wherein R^3 denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.

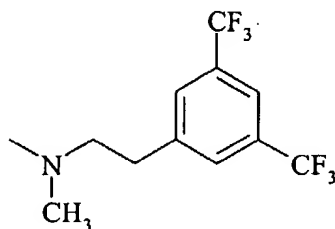
9. (Original): A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 is 2-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-ethyl.

10. (Original): A compound according to claim 2, wherein R^3 is 2-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-ethyl.

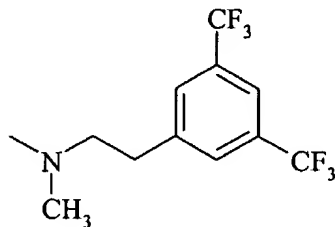
11. (Original): A compound according to claim 3, wherein R^3 is 2-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-ethyl.

12. (Original): A compound according to claim 4, wherein R^3 is 2-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-ethyl.

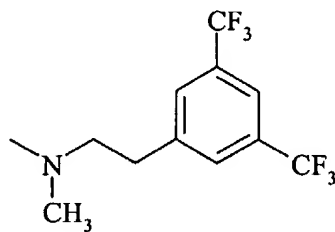
13. (Original): A compound according to claim 1, wherein the group $-NR^3R^4$ is



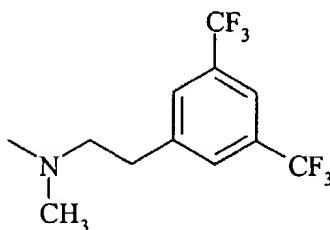
14. (Original): A compound according to claim 2, wherein the group $-NR^3R^4$ is



15. (Original): A compound according to claim 3, wherein the group $-NR^3R^4$ is



16. (Original): A compound according to claim 4, wherein the group $-NR^3R^4$ is



Claims 17-20 (Cancelled)

21. (previously presented): A compound according to claim 1, wherein

R^1 denotes a 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and

R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_3 -alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

22. (previously presented): A compound according to claim 2, wherein

R^1 denotes a 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and

R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_3 -alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

23. (previously presented): A compound according to claim 3, wherein

R^1 denotes a 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and

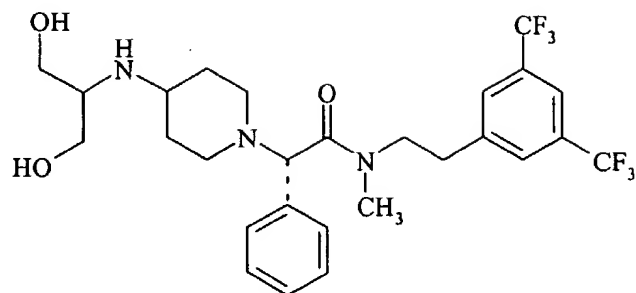
R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_3 -alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

24. (previously presented): A compound according to claim 4, wherein

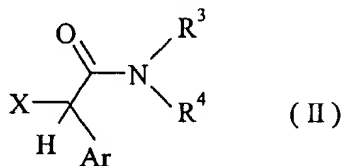
R^1 denotes a 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and

R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_3 -alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

25. (previously presented): A compound having the following formula:

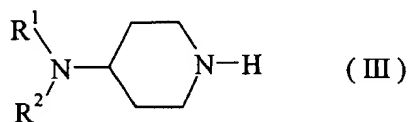


26. (Original) A process for preparing a compound of formula I according to claim 1, said process comprising reacting an amide of formula II



wherein Ar, R³ and R⁴ are as defined in claim 1 and X denotes a suitable leaving group,

with a piperidine of formula III



wherein R¹ and R² are as defined in claim 1, in an inert solvent in the presence of a base.

US APPLN. NO. 09/981,025
AMENDMENT

27. (Original): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and excipients.

28. (Canceled)

29. (currently amended): A method ~~according to claim 28, wherein the~~ of treating an illness treated is selected from inflammatory and allergic conditions of the airways, eyes, skin, the gastro-intestinal tract, joints, bones and bladder; and central nervous system diseases comprising administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

30. (currently amended): A method ~~according to claim 28, wherein the~~ of treating an illness treated is selected from the following:
asthma, chronic bronchitis, hyperreactive airways, emphysema, rhinitis, COPD, pulmonary hypertension, cystic fibrosis, coughs;
conjunctivitis, iritis;
dermatitis in contact eczema, neurodermatitis, pruritus, urticaria, psoriasis, sunburn, burns, insect bites, rosacea, itching, sensitive or hypersensitive skin;
gastric and duodenal ulcers, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, inflammatory bowel disease, irritable colon, Hirschsprung's disease, motility problems;
rheumatoid arthritis, reactive arthritis, arthrosis, osteoporosis and Reiter's syndrome;
irritable bladder, incontinence, urinary urgency, urethritis, colic and cystitis; restless leg syndrome;
dementia, Alzheimer's disease, schizophrenia, psychoses, anxiety states, alcohol or drug dependency, sexual dysfunctions, eating disorders, depression, headaches, epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, stroke;
Herpes zoster, postherpetic pain, tumors, collagenoses, a dysfunction of the deferent urinary tracts, haemorrhoids, nausea and vomiting, and pain,

comprising administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

31. (original): A method according to claim 29, wherein the illness is selected from: COPD, anxiety states and depression.

32. (previously presented) A compound having the following formula:

